REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In response to the Examiner's final Office Action of December 13, 2007 the Applicant respectfully submits the accompanying Amendment of the abstract and claims, and the below Remarks.

Regarding Amendment

In the Amendment:

the abstract is amended to omit "are provided" and "[Fig. 3]";

independent claims 1 and 17 are amended to specify that the specialized format has a unique text structure, that the unique text structure is determined and that a digital ink searching algorithm which specifically provides a search of the database for the determined unique text structure is selected; and

claims 2-16 and 18-23 are unchanged.

It is respectfully submitted that the Amendment does not add any new matter to the present application as the amended features are described, for example, at page 15, lines 28-30 of the present specification.

Regarding Specification Objections

It is respectfully submitted that the amendments of the abstract provide the corrections required by the Examiner.

Regarding 35 USC 102(b) Rejections and Response to Arguments

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of amended independent claims 1 and 17, and claims 2-16 and 18-23, is not disclosed or suggested by Lopresti, because Lopresti merely discloses converting ink data into strokes and then feature vectors, and searching a database of user-drawn annotations for matches to feature vectors (see col. 8, lines 62-65) and does not teach or suggest determining unique text structures and selecting searching algorithms which specifically search a database for these unique text structures, as is required by the claimed invention.

Response to Office Action of June 28, 2007

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It is respectfully submitted that all of the Examiner's objections and rejections have been traversed. Accordingly, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Very respectfully,

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